



SEPT 2021

# The Lucky Bag

RICHMOND COUNCIL, NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

## Richmond Council Sea Services Luncheon Wednesday October 27, 2021

In increasing numbers, we are reading/hearing accounts of military vehicles, planes and even submarines becoming operational without pilots or a working crew.

Come join us at our luncheon and have an opportunity to meet and hear a Navy Captain who has been involved and responsible for much of this emerging technology.

Captain Reed, from Houston, TX, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering. He reported to Johnson Space Center for temporary duty prior to flight school, followed by designation as a naval flight officer (NFO) with the Sabrehawks of Training Squadron (VT) 86 in 1995.

Upon completion of S-3B Viking flight training in San Diego, CA, he reported for his initial fleet tour with the Checkmates of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 22.

He deployed aboard **USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71)** and **USS**



**GUEST SPEAKER**

**CAPTAIN CHAD REED – PROGRAM  
MANAGER FOR UNMANNED CARRIER  
AVIATION PROGRAM OFFICE**

**ENTERPRISE (CVN 65)** flying in combat operations over Yugoslavia and in the Persian Gulf.

A graduate of U.S. Naval Test Pilot School Class 129, Reed has accumulated more than 2,100 flight hours in 35 different aircraft and has logged over 270 carrier landings.

CAPT Reed is the son of Doug Reed, one of our Council Directors and our Golf Co-Chairman.

He is married to Keri Reed and resides in Leonardtown, MD with their four children.

### SEA SERVICES LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

**DATE:** Wednesday 27 October 2021

**TIME:** 11:30 AM Registration  
12:00 PM Luncheon  
12:45 PM Program

**COST:** \$ 25.00 per person

**PLACE:** Willow Oaks Country Club  
6228 Forest Hill Ave  
Richmond, VA 23225

**Reservation Deadline for SEA SERVICES LUNCHEON: To be received by Wednesday October 20, 2021**

**\*\*Refund Policy 2021: Cancellations will be accepted & checks returned UP TO and INCLUDING the "deadline date"**

### **RESERVATIONS FOR SEA SERVICES LUNCHEON - WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 27, 2021**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular meal served **unless** special meal is indicated: 1 or 2 Veggie Meal(s) (NO meat)

Total # of Res. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 25.00 per person Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Only vaccinated individuals are encouraged to attend this luncheon - Bring a mask as required by the venue**

Make check payable (and mail) to: Richmond Council NLUS P.O. Box 11201 Richmond, VA 23230 Tel #: (804) 355-7557

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Adam J. "Jay" Fiedler, M.D.



A new issue of *The Lucky Bag* and new issues for us! One of the tasks Navy Leaguers are assigned is to lobby the government regarding Navy and military issues. With the publication of Senator Tom Cotton's report on the Navy's lack of preparedness, the Navy League's "round table group", under my title, has sent a letter to the editor of the Richmond Times Dispatch the Senators on the Defense Committee, our Virginia Senators and the White House. We'll see.

Unfortunately, the Oceana Air Show has been officially canceled, but our Annual Golf fundraiser is moving forward unless God, or the CDC strikes it down. Other events are progressing well, and we hope many of our members will attend.

That's all folks" (Bugs Bunny) and me. ✍

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*The Lucky Bag* is published monthly, except Jan. & Feb. issues, which are combined.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chaplain John A. Harler, M.D.

### DOUBLE-MINDEDNESS

The Bible says, "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways". (James.1:8). A double mind is having in the mind opposite or opposing views at different times. Double mindedness is a malady. The symptom is "instability" which is described by the Apostle James as one who is "like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed to and fro" (James 1:6). When life is unstable, the mind is unsettled and lacks solid convictions. God's Word calls us to have *singleness of heart and mind*. This is the state of being for which we should strive. The antidote for double-mindedness is to seek the truth by drawing near to God Who promises to reveal the truth which will set us free from double-mindedness, thereby bringing us singleness of heart and mind, resulting in peace.

While our present world may experience divisiveness and disagreement in many arenas of thought and beliefs, our goal is to attain a singleness of heart and mind with the Lord. While a dichotomy of beliefs may seem to surround us daily, pushing us to double-mindedness, we are to follow Proverbs 3:5-6 which tells us to "trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths".

In doing this, we can find a singleness of heart and mind – and heavenly peace. ✍

### OUR MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

By now you have heard of Senator Tom Cotton's report on the status of the Navy's surface fleet. It is truly damning and can be extrapolated to all our armed forces. Our Navy is slipping compared to the Chinese and Russian navies. In summary the report states:

- ◆ The Navy has an insufficient focus on war-fighting.
- ◆ The service has a dominant and paralyzing zero defect mentality.
- ◆ There is an underinvestment in surface warfare officer training.
- ◆ Ship maintenance programs are poorly resourced and executed.

- ◆ There is an expanding culture of micromanagement in the Navy.
- ◆ Navy leadership suffers from a corrosive over-responsiveness to media culture.

Additionally, the report noted:

The Navy has lost focus on good ship handling.

There are excessive administrative tasks not related to ship's lethality.

The Navy is too small to face tasks ordered by the government and required by the world situations.

Maintenance of land sea and air equipment may be costly, but it is necessary.

However, enhancing the WARRIOR SPIRIT, requires little more than a change of attitude and training. The military is not the place for social experiments-it is a place to train fighters to protect our beloved country. As for micromanagement: remember Vietnam! You and our citizens need to get on board to keep our military great. Get those defense checks ready and always promote aggressive leaders. ✍

Respectfully submitted,

Adam J. Fiedler, M.D.

President Richmond Council  
Navy League of the United States

### NAVY LEAGUE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES EXPLAINED - - -

### HOW & WHY MUST I PAY NATIONAL NAVY LEAGUE DUES?

There has always been some confusion regarding the payment of National annual dues to maintain active membership in the Richmond Council Navy League. This confusion arises from these two facts:

1. You must be a member of National Navy League to be an active member of the Richmond Council. It is your responsibility to renew your National Navy League membership annually.

2. Annual National and Richmond Council dues **cannot** be submitted together because National renewal oc-

**Membership Dues cont. on page 3**

## Membership Dues cont. from page 2

curs on the anniversary of your membership, and Richmond Council renewal occurs annually on January 1.

**Richmond Council renewal notices** are sent by mail in December.

**National renewal notices** are sent on the anniversary of your joining date with a 90, 60, and 30-day notice before your membership expires. The 90 and 60-day notices are sent by email if available, otherwise by postal mail. The 30-day notice is sent via postal mail. If you do not receive a renewal notice from National Navy League regarding your annual dues, email [membership@navyleague.org](mailto:membership@navyleague.org) or call (703) 312-1558 and inquire.

Members are encouraged to renew their national membership online if able. To renew online, go to: [navyleague.org](http://navyleague.org) and log on to your online account. Once logged in, you will see the "Renew" button on the top right-hand corner of the page. Click the "Renew" button to renew your membership.

If you would like to renew via check, please send a check to 2300 Wilson Blvd. Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22201. Write your member ID # on the memo line of the check. ✍

## GOLF FUNDRAISING EVENT SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Our last Benefit Golf Outing was in May of 2019! We missed 2020 due to the pandemic. We are looking forward to being able to gather once again at The Hollows Golf Club in Montpelier, VA on Wednesday September 22<sup>nd</sup> for a great day of golfing and reconnecting with old friends.

The format as usual will be Captain's Choice, Best Ball. As the number of players will be limited to 124 for this popular event, you should get your reservations in early to ensure that you do not miss out. Registration starts at 10:30 AM. Lunch will be served at 11:00 AM and Tee Off will be at 12:30 PM sharp.

Be sure to practice your hole-in-one expertise, as this year McGeorge Toyota has blessed us by donating a **BRAND-NEW TOYOTA VEHICLE** as a prospective special award for a **hole-in-one** on a par 3 "Car Hole" to be announced at the outing.

If you have not already received a hard copy of the Golf Brochure, you can go to the website:

[www.navyleague-richmond.com](http://www.navyleague-richmond.com), download, print, fill it out and mail it in with your check.

## WE NEED SPONSORS

Our annual golf outing is Richmond Council's PREMIER fundraising event. As we missed the outing in 2020, we are in greater need more than ever of your support! Please share your digital copy of *The Lucky Bag* with your family and friends and encourage their support.

## WE NEED GOLFERS

We also encourage you to invite your friends and family to sign up to play golf. Get your foursomes together for a fun day of golf. The cost per player is \$85 which includes a green fee, cart, lunch, snacks, soft drinks and adult refreshments served by courtesy carts.

## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

There is ALWAYS a need for help with loading beverage carts, driving the beverage carts, monitoring play on the 'car hole', collecting sponsor signs and more - - - PLEASE HELP!! ✍



## MID ATLANTIC MARITIME ACADEMY (MAMA) TRIP

Pat Robson, Tom Hassell, and Jay Fiedler went to the Mid Atlantic Maritime Academy (will be called MAMA) to learn and see if we could support. It was fascinating! The MAMA is a private school that offers courses in all aspects of maritime management: basic seamanship, basic engine room to advanced engine room, up to captain's license.

The picture shows Tom Hassell on the simulated bridge that is so realistic that many people get seasick. You can dial up all kinds of weather that the ship responds appropriately even lightning and thunder. Tom needed a scopolamine patch at this point.

The students are required to take apart and reassemble the engines, and other equipment. WOW! This is very comprehensive. They do have a boot camp that involves training youngsters in the neighborhood to participate to become able body seamen.

We thought this may be a place (fund) in which we could be involved. Also, this may be a good trip for our members, JNROTC and Sea Cadets. ✍



**Raymond Blanchet, VP of Operations Mid Atlantic Maritime Academy on left and Tom Hassell on right.**

## THEODORE GORDON ELLYSON "Always wanted to be the first"

Theodore Gordon Ellyson, the first Naval officer to qualify as an airplane pilot, and distinguished pioneer of U.S. Naval Aviation, was born on February 27, 1885, in Richmond, Virginia.

On a father-and-son trip to Hampton Roads, Virginia, Ellison witnessed a Navy fleet enter the harbor and from that point on he knew he wanted to be a Navy man.

Appointed Naval Cadet, he entered the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, in June 1901 and graduated with the Class of 1905. After two years at sea, then required by law before commissioning, he was commissioned Ensign in the U.S. Navy on January 31, 1907. Subsequently, he advanced as follows: Lieutenant, junior grade, on January 31, 1910; Lieutenant, September 16, 1910; Lieutenant Commander, May 23, 1917; and Commander on July 1, 1918. ✍

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- April 1910 - assumed command of **USS TARANTULA**
- December 1910 – ordered to Los Angeles, CA for flight training
- December 1911 – witnessed a float plane land in the water alongside the **USS PENNSYLVANIA**, was hoisted aboard ship, then lowered back to the water, from which it took off. He then knew that he had to develop a launching system.
- November 1912 – made a successful take-off from a barge in the Washington Navy Yard using his redesigned catapult system.
- February 1918 – was detached for duty at the Submarine Chase Base, New London, CT.
- June 1918 – was attached to Submarine Chase Squadron at U.S. Naval Base, Plymouth, England. For his wartime service, he was awarded the Navy Cross. He was largely responsible for development of submarine chase tactics and doctrine.
- July 1920 – During the next five months, Ellyson successfully commanded **USS LITTLE** and **USS BROOKS**
- January 1921 – was ordered to Hampton Roads, VA to serve as Executive Officer of Naval Air Station.
- July 1925 – assumed command of

Torpedo Squadron One.

Commander Ellyson was killed on February 27, 1928 on his forty-third birthday, in a crash of an airplane in lower Chesapeake Bay, while on a night flight from Norfolk, VA to Annapolis, MD.

In addition to the Navy Cross, Commander Ellyson was awarded the Victory Medal and Submarine Chaser Clasp. On February 27, 1941, a new auxiliary airfield at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL was named ELLYSON FIELD, in honor of Commander Theodore G. Ellyson, USN.

The **USS ELLYSON (DD-454)** built just prior to World War II, was also named to honor Commander Ellyson.

Ellyson loved the Navy so much that he once told his wife, "Even you come second". The only thing he loved as much as the Navy was accomplishing things before anyone else. In 1911, he had successfully merged both passions, becoming the Navy's first pilot. ✍



**Ellyson Catapult Launch Nov. 1912**

(Photo's courtesy of the Naval History and Heritage Command).



**Ellyson Hydro Testing - 1911**

## Invitation to 246<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Birthday Ball

I have included the link for the MARDET Marine Corps Ball and I would like to invite all the members of the Richmond Navy League to the event in Downtown Richmond. Ball tickets can be purchased through the website: [www.mardetfortleeball.com](http://www.mardetfortleeball.com)

It will be on 10 November 2021 as a formal evening event.

**Respectfully,**  
**LtCol Julian M Tsukano**  
**USMC, Commanding Officer**  
**Marine Detachment (MarDet)**  
**Ft. Lee, Virginia**

**Message from the CO:** Our Marine Corps Birthday will be contingent on the latest State of VA, Dept of Defense, and USMC COVID-19 restrictions and changes may occur up to the day of the Marine Corps Ball. We apologize upfront for the additional restrictions. All attendees are highly recommended to self-screen for COVID infections and to not attend if you have had contact or suspect you have had contact with an infected individual. In order to avoid unnecessary restrictions, please get vaccinated. ✍

**THEODORE G. ELLYSON**  
was designated by the  
Department of the Navy,  
Air Pilot No. 1,  
NAVY AIR PILOT  
on  
January 1, 1914.

## ADOPTED SHIPS UPDATE

(note: these reports may be edited to fit space available)



### USS NORMANDY (CG-60)

CO: CAPT Charles Hampton  
XO: CDR Theresa L. Kaylor  
CMC: CMDCM Douglas Newman

Adam J. Fiedler, M.D., Liaison  
George L. Feitig, Jr., Ass't Liaison

Report Pending. ✍



### USS CARTER HALL (LSD-50)

CO: CDR LaDonna M. Simpson  
XO: CDR Brad A. Fancher  
CMC: CMDCM Adam Singleton

Pat Robson, Liaison

Greetings from the FIGHTIN 5-0!

The **CARTER HALL** crew and leadership have spent the last month focusing on "team" wins: striving to maintain current qualifications; shoring up areas of deficiency; preparing our junior officers & sailors to obtain the necessary qualifications in order to achieve further advancement, thereby growing into greater areas of responsibility. These efforts have stretched us, mentally and physically, but these efforts have not been in vain. As a result of forward-thinking leadership and the diligent efforts of many we are thankful to enjoy the services and insights of several more qualified watch standers, a growing pool of Damage Control (DC) certified Sailors, and more than a few Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialists (ESWS) to support in the never-ending fight towards material and personnel readiness. Truly, it is One Team, One Fight!

While our Marines remain ashore, training, preparing, and standing by for additional tasking, we on the "Blue-side" have kept our eyes forward and executed our plans to maintain a

ready posture to meet whatever tomorrow holds in store. Without losing focus on our purpose, the **CARTER HALL** crew was thankful to celebrate our country's independence & birth during a Steel Beach picnic, hosted by our Chief's Mess (they did a splendid job!). Life underway can be dry, monotonous, and taxing as many of you know far better than I. So any "reprieve" from the sameness of the day in, day out schedule is always a welcomed breath of fresh air...great food and a bit of fun doesn't hurt either.

As we carry on during this deployment, we are bolstered by the support of family, friends, and our like-minded partners in the effort. Thank you, Richmond Navy league, for encouraging us with your timely, thoughtful gifts and for the steady interest you show in both the ship AND its people!

We are: Working for Peace, Ready for War! ✍

Very Respectfully,  
Chaplain Block  
LT, CHC, USN



### USS GRAVELY (DDG-107)

CO: CDR Corey Odom  
XO: CDR Hunter Washburn  
CMC: CMDCM Dion C. Dupree

Patrick D. Harris, Liaison  
Alan Palmer, Consultant

Team **GRAVELY** wishes our readers a warm and safe summer! We are underway again completing our RE-7 inspection in which **USS GRAVELY** gets assessed for material readiness. Team **GRAVELY** also completed a two-week underway in which we honed in our skills in Anti-Submarine Warfare.

The crew onboard **USS GRAVELY** is working towards gearing up for C2X which is an integrated training opportunity for our Carrier Strike Group, CSG-8, and allows us to not only build confidence in our warfare devices, but it also solidifies all of the previous training we have completed up to this date.

**GRAVELY** continues to perform at an extremely high level within the fleet

and raises the bar with every event we face. Recently, the commodore of Destroyer Squadron 28 embarked on **DDG 107** stating, "I chose to embark on **USS GRAVELY** due to your drive and desire for excellence".

Exciting news within Carrier Strike Group 8 as RDML Renshaw takes command of CSG-8. We are excited to be led by one of the Navy's best!

Lastly, team **GRAVELY** also wanted to extend a congratulations to our new Master Chief, FCACM Mario Brioli! ✍

Very Respectfully,  
Michael W. Krueger, Ensign, USN  
Public Affairs Officer



### USCGC NORTHLAND (WMEC-904)

CO: CDR Patricia M. Bennett  
XO: LCDR Elizabeth Tufts  
COB: EMC Armando Ortiz

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., Liaison  
Vaughan F. Dize, Assistant Liaison

Greetings from **USCGC NORTHLAND!**

We have been underway on patrol for almost the whole month of July. Our current patrol is focused on the counter-drug mission in the Eastern Pacific, near Central and South America. We have been busy as we fit in our required drills and training, while patrolling the Eastern Pacific Ocean in search of targets of interest. When conducting this mission, we also have the opportunity to work with the Coast Guard's partner agencies, including the U.S. Navy as well as Customs and Border Protection (CBP) as we work to enforce the homeland security and counter-trafficking mission. We have already had one successful interdiction and we look forward to maintaining this presence throughout the rest of our patrol.

After leaving our port call in Key West early (on the 4th of July!) due to the threat of an impending hurricane, we headed down to Costa Rica to conduct some exercises with our international partners there. As the Coast Guard's law enforcement presence in the region, cutters like **NORTHLAND** become the face of the

**NORTHLAND continued on page 6**

## NORTHLAND cont. from page 5

service as we work to help our strategic partners build their capabilities. Also, in the month of July, **NORTHLAND** conducted our southbound Panama Canal transit. For some of the old salts on board, this was a familiar sight, but for many of our new crew, the transit was a new and exciting experience. Although it was a long evolution, after a safe and successful transit, we headed out into our operating area in the Pacific.

For this patrol, **NORTHLAND** has embarked an aviation detachment from U.S. Coast Guard HITRON (Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron), based in Jacksonville, FL. HITRON is the Coast Guard's aerial use of force experts. The aviation detachment flies a Eurocopter MH-65 Dolphin helicopter equipped with precision weapons capable of conducting warning shots and disabling fire. **NORTHLAND's** HITRON detachment launches daily from our flight deck to conduct sorties in search of vessels of interest, significantly broadening our effective range. Having a helicopter onboard the cutter serves as a great opportunity for our crewmembers to get qualified on launch, recovery, refueling, and other at-sea helicopter operations. It also allows our junior personnel to see another Coast Guard specialty.

As the month of August approaches, **NORTHLAND's** crew is eager to continue our mission and find additional opportunities to interdict vessels suspected of smuggling narcotics. The crew is excited and determined to remain engaged for the duration of the patrol and return home to family and loved ones. As always, thank you for the support! ✍️

Very Respectfully,  
XO LCDR Elizabeth Tufts



**NORTHLAND** Crewmembers conducting a training evolution onboard the cutter's OTH-IV small boat.



**NORTHLAND** crewmembers conducting safety walk downs prior to a helicopter evolution.

## THE PORT OF VIRGINIA

### COAST GUARD'S 5<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT MONITORS MASSIVE MID-ADLANTIC MARITIME EXPANSION

The Port of Virginia is something of a little-misunderstood region on the nation's vast maritime map, and yet is one of the busiest, most strategically important ports in the nation.

Located at Hampton Roads, it ranks seventh among North America's largest ports, with five major terminals (compared to 25 at the Port of Los Angeles; the largest and probably best-known port). It's a neighbor to the world's largest naval base, Naval Station, Norfolk.

Like much of the nation's maritime infrastructure, the general public often doesn't see the mighty industrial lifting done at a port like the Port of Virginia, which employs nearly 400,000 directly and indirectly and contributes about \$92 billion annually to Virginia's economy. (For more information refer to the *Sea Power Magazine* July/August 2021 Issue). ✍️

# Thank You Sponsors!

Your Financial contribution to the Richmond Navy League provides Funds for programs supporting those serving in the United States Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Council's Youth Programs; The Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Local Navy and Marine JROTC Units.



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MC**

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*Thanks for jumping on board !!!*

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